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## 'TOUGH DECISIONS' IN LISBON

By JACQUELINE REDITT  
in Lisbon

PORTUGAL'S first woman Prime Minister, Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo, said yesterday she would not be scared to take unpopular decisions in her "100-day march" before the autumn general election.

In her first Press conference since announcing Portugal's 11th post-revolutionary government, she stressed that her Cabinet would be politically impartial despite hard-hitting criticisms from the Right that she was strongly Socialist with distinct Communist sympathies.

The Conservative party leader, Dr Freitas Do Amaral, said in an interview with the Right-wing daily *O Dia* that President Eanes' decision to choose Miss Pintasilgo was immoral and scandalous.

Her sympathies had always been with the progressive Left and choosing her to prepare for general elections was like appointing a football referee who was a known fan of one of the two sides.

### Right-wing fear

Miss Pintasilgo will have 10 days to present her programme after she and her government are sworn in, presumably this week.

Any party can table a motion to reject her programme and bring her government down during a five-day debate that follows, but with the Socialists and Communists holding the majority in Parliament she is almost certain to survive.

The Right-wing parties fear that President Eanes will then dissolve Parliament, removing at a stroke all checks and balances on the Pintasilgo Government, which could push through unpopular Left-wing legislation by decree.

Dr Freitas Do Amaral and the Social Democrat president, Francisco Sa Carneiro, with leaders of the small Monarchist party, have gone to Spain to drum up support for their forthcoming electoral campaign.

They had talks yesterday with leaders of Spain's ruling Centre Democratic Union party, and will meet King Juan Carlos.

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